

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment and reconsideration of the present application. This amendment is submitted to present the claims in better form for issue or for consideration on appeal.

Claims 2-6, 8-30, 33 and 34 remain in this application. Claims 31 and 32 have been canceled.

In the Office action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 2-6, 8-30, 33 and 34 are allowed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges allowance of these claims.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over published U.S. Patent application No. 2003/0174048 (McCorkle) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,307,848 (Wood). Claims 31 and 32 are canceled by this Amendment, without prejudice. Applicants may pursue those or related claims in a continuation application.

Appl. No. 10/598,815
Amdt. dated Feb. 19, 2009
Reply to Office action of Dec. 23, 2008

Claim 12 has been amended to correct typographical errors.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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